Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-01

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 OIC-02 NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EEC, EI

SUBJECT: EC POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETINGS, BRUSSELS,

MARCH 3-4: GENERAL SUMMIT AGENDA

1. WE WERE BRIEFED LATE MARCH 6 BY JOHN CAMPBELL, DEPUTY IRISH POLITICAL DIRECTOR, WHO HAD ATTENDED MARCH 3/4 EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING IN BRUSSELS. MOST OF HIS INFORMATION WAS LESS COMPLETE THAN REPORTS ALREADY CABLED

BY EMBASSY BRUSSELS, SINCE HE DID NOT ATTEND ALL MEETINGS.

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FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS MAY, HOWEVER, BE OF INTEREST.

- 2. MAJOR TASK OF MEETING WAS TO DETERMINE AGENDA FOR NEXT WEEK'S EC SUMMIT. ALL PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT BRITISH EC "RENEGOTIATIONS" WILL BE DOMINANT TOPIC, WITH OTHER SUBJECTS TAKING UP ONLY A LITTLE TIME ON THE MARGINS. SEPTEL GIVES CAMPBELL'S COMMENTS ON RENEGOTIATION PROSPECTS.
- 3. POLITICAL DIRECTORS ALSO DECIDED THAT CSCE WILL BE ON SUMMIT AGENDA, EVEN THOUGH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WILL PROBABLY GIVE TOPIC ONLY A BRIEF GENERAL REVIEW. CSCE MAY, IN FACT, BE THE ONLY "POLITICAL" TOPIC TO ARISE IN SUMMIT. RENEGOTIATION COMES UNDER "TREATY" HEADING (SEE BRUSSELS 1926) AND ACCORDINGLY IS NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS.
- 4. IN ADDITION TO CSCE ITEM, AGENDA WILL HAVE A SPACE FOR "GENERAL QUESTIONS." IT IS POSSIBLE THAT CYPRUS AND EURO/ ARAB DIALOGUE MIGHT ARISE UNDER THIS HEADING, ALTHOUGH CAMPBELL WAS SURE ANY DISCUSSION WOULD BE VERY CURSORY.
- 5. CAMPBELL COMMENTED THAT THE ONLY REASON FOR HAVING EVEN CSCE ON THE SUMMIT AGENDA WAS TO ESTABLISH PRECEDENT FOR DISCUSSION OF "POLITICAL" SUBJECTS BY HEADS OF GOVERNMENT. PARIS SUMMIT HAD DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE THAT FUTURE SUMMITS WOULD LOOK AT POLITICAL-COOPERATION ITEMS, SO DUBLIN SUMMIT CANNOT FAIL TO DO SO.
- 6. WE ASKED CAMPBELL ABOUT CORRECT TERMINOLOGY FOR SUMMIT. HE REPLIED THAT IRISH ARE CALLING IT "HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING." FRENCH PREFER " EUROPEAN COUNCIL." DANES STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS TITLE BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO DEVALUE THE EC TREATIES. OTHER EC SMALLS SYMPATHIZE WITH THE DANES. FRENCH, ON THE OTHER HAND, REFUSE "SUMMIT" LABEL, ALTHOUGH GENERAL PUBLIC WILL DOUBTLESS CONTINUE TO USE IT. IRISH CONSIDER "HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING" A REASONABLE COMPROMISE.

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